

Janice K. Brewer Governor EXECUTIVE OFFICE

July 13, 2009

The Honorable Kirk Adams Speaker of the House Arizona House of Representatives 1700 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: House Bill 2207; behavior analysts

Dear Speaker Adams:

Today I signed House Bill 2207, relating to the licensure of behavioral analysts. I did so despite language in the bill that is the basis of my concerns in House Bill 2206.

While the same clause appears in House Bill 2207, few behavior analysts are appointed for court-ordered evaluations, treatment, or psychoeducation. Further, because behavior analyst services for autistic children is now recognized treatment, licensure is necessary for reimbursement.

I have been assured by Representative Barto that my concerns will be addressed next session. With this understanding, I have signed House Bill 2207.

Sincerely,

Anice K. Brewer

Governor

cc:

The Honorable Robert Burns
The Honorable Nancy Barto
The Honorable David Bradley
The Honorable Ken Bennett

Senate Engrossed House Bill

FILED KEN BENNETT SECRETARY OF STATE

State of Arizona House of Representatives Forty-ninth Legislature First Regular Session 2009

CHAPTER 161

HOUSE BILL 2207

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-2063, 32-2065, 32-2091, 32-2091.02, 32-2091.04, 32-2091.06, 32-2091.07 AND 32-2091.09, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR THE DELAYED CONDITIONAL REPEAL OF TITLE 32, CHAPTER 19.1, ARTICLE 4, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; AMENDING LAWS 2008, CHAPTER 288, SECTION 9; RELATING TO BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona: Section 1. Section 32-2063, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2063. Powers and duties

- A. The board shall:
- 1. Administer and enforce this chapter and board rules.
- 2. Regulate disciplinary actions, the granting, denial, revocation, renewal and suspension of licenses and the rehabilitation of licensees pursuant to this chapter and board rules.
- 3. Prescribe the forms, content and manner of application for licensure and renewal of licensure and set deadlines for the receipt of materials required by the board.
- 4. Keep a record of all licensees, board actions taken on all applicants and licensees and the receipt and disbursal of monies.
- 5. Adopt an official seal for attestation of licenses and other official papers and documents.
- 6. Investigate charges of violations of this chapter and board rules and orders.
- 7. Employ an executive director who serves at the pleasure of the board.
- 8. Annually elect from among its membership a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary, who serve at the pleasure of the board.
- 9. Adopt rules pursuant to title 41, chapter 6 to carry out this chapter and to define unprofessional conduct.
- 10. Engage in a full exchange of information with other regulatory boards and psychological associations, national psychology organizations and the Arizona psychological association and its components.
- 11. By rule, adopt a code of ethics relating to the practice of psychology. The board shall base this code on the code of ethics adopted and published by the American psychological association. The board shall apply the code to all board enforcement policies and disciplinary case evaluations and development of licensing examinations.
- B. The board may employ permanent or temporary personnel it deems necessary to carry out this chapter. The board, in investigating violations of this chapter, may employ investigators who may be psychologists. The board or its executive director may take and hear evidence, administer oaths and affirmations and compel by subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, records, documents and other information relating to the investigation or hearing.
- C. SUBJECT TO SECTION 35-149, THE BOARD MAY ACCEPT, EXPEND AND ACCOUNT FOR GIFTS, GRANTS, DEVISES AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS, MONEY OR PROPERTY FROM ANY PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SOURCE, INCLUDING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE BOARD SHALL DEPOSIT, PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 35-146 AND 35-147, MONIES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION IN SPECIAL FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE SPECIFIED, AND

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MONIES IN THESE FUNDS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSING OF APPROPRIATIONS.

- ϵ . D. Compensation for all personnel shall be determined pursuant to section 38-611.
 - Sec. 2. Section 32-2065, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2065. <u>Board of psychologist examiners fund: account</u>
 - A. The board of psychologist examiners fund is established.
- B. Except as provided in sections SECTION 32-2081 and SECTION 32-2091.09, subsection 4- J, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, the board shall deposit ten per cent of all monies collected pursuant to this chapter in the state general fund and deposit the remaining ninety per cent in the board of psychologist examiners fund.
- C. All monies deposited in the board of psychologist examiners fund are subject to section 35-143.01.
- D. ALL MONIES DEPOSITED IN THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FUND PURSUANT TO 32-2067 AND ANY MONIES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-2063, SUBSECTION C FOR PSYCHOLOGIST LICENSING AND REGULATION MUST BE USED ONLY FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND ARTICLES 2 AND 3 OF THIS CHAPTER AND MAY NOT BE USED FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS CHAPTER.
- E. ALL MONIES DEPOSITED IN THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS FUND PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS CHAPTER AND ANY MONIES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-2063, SUBSECTION C FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYST LICENSING AND REGULATION MUST BE USED ONLY FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS CHAPTER AND MAY NOT BE USED FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE AND ARTICLES 2 AND 3 OF THIS CHAPTER.
- F. THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A SEPARATE ACCOUNT IN THE FUND FOR MONIES TRANSFERRED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS CHAPTER AND ANY MONIES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-2063, SUBSECTION C FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYST LICENSING AND REGULATION.
 - Sec. 3. Section 32-2091, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read: 32-2091. <u>Definitions</u>
 - A. In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1. "Active license" means a current license issued by the board to a person licensed pursuant to this article.
- 2. "Adequate records" means records that contain, at a minimum, sufficient information to identify the client, the dates of service, the fee for service, the payments for service and the type of service given and copies of any reports that may have been made.
- 3. "Behavior analysis" means the design, implementation and evaluation of systematic environmental modifications by a behavior analyst to produce socially significant improvements in human behavior based on the principles of behavior identified through the experimental analysis of behavior. Behavior analysis does not include cognitive therapies or psychological

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testing, neuropsychology, psychotherapy, sex therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnotherapy and long-term counseling as treatment modalities.

- 4. "Behavior analysis services" means the use of behavior analysis to assist a person to learn new behavior, increase existing behavior, reduce existing behavior and emit behavior under precise environmental conditions. Behavior analysis includes behavioral programming and behavioral programs.
- 5. "Behavior analyst" means a person who is licensed pursuant to this article to practice behavior analysis.
 - 6. "Client" means:
 - (a) A person or entity that receives behavior analysis services.
- (b) A corporate entity, a governmental entity or any other organization that has a professional contract to provide services or benefits primarily to an organization rather than to an individual.
- (c) An individual's legal guardian for decision making purposes, except that the individual is the client for issues that directly affect the individual's physical or emotional safety and issues that the legal guardian agrees to specifically reserve to the individual.
- 7. "Exploit" means an action by a behavior analyst who takes undue advantage of the professional association with a client, student or supervisee for the advantage or profit of the behavior analyst.
- 8. "Health care institution" means a facility that is licensed pursuant to title 36, chapter 4, article 1. , a person who is authorized to transact disability insurance pursuant to title 20, chapter 6, article 4 or 5 or a person who is issued a certificate of authority pursuant to title 20, chapter 4, article 9.
- 9. "INCOMPETENT AS A BEHAVIOR ANALYST" MEANS THAT A PERSON WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 4 OF THIS CHAPTER LACKS THE KNOWLEDGE OR SKILLS OF A BEHAVIOR ANALYST TO A DEGREE THAT IS LIKELY TO ENDANGER THE HEALTH OF A CLIENT.
- 9. 10. "Letter of concern" means an advisory letter to notify a licensee that while there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action the board believes the licensee should modify or eliminate certain practices and that continuation of the activities that led to the information being submitted to the board may result in action against the license.
- 10. 11. "Supervisee" means a person who acts under the extended authority of a behavior analyst to provide behavioral services and includes a person who is in training to provide these services.
- 11. 12. "Unprofessional conduct" includes the following activities, whether occurring in this state or elsewhere:
 - (a) Obtaining a fee by fraud or misrepresentation.
 - (b) Betraying professional confidences.
- (c) Making or using statements of a character tending to deceive or mislead.
- (d) Aiding or abetting a person who is not licensed pursuant to this article in representing that person as a behavior analyst.

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- (e) Gross negligence in the practice of a behavior analyst.
- (f) Sexual intimacies or sexual intercourse with a current client or a supervisee or with a former client within two years after the cessation or termination of treatment. For the purposes of this subdivision, "sexual intercourse" has the same meaning prescribed in section 13-1401.
- (g) Engaging or offering to engage as a behavior analyst in activities that are not congruent with the behavior analyst's professional education, training and experience.
- (h) Failing or refusing to maintain and retain adequate business, financial or professional records pertaining to the behavior analysis services provided to a client.
- (i) Committing a felony, whether or not involving moral turpitude, or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude. In either case, conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction or a plea of no contest is conclusive evidence of the commission.
- (j) Making a fraudulent or untrue statement to the board or its investigators, staff or consultants.
- (k) Violating any federal or state law that relates to the practice of behavior analysis or to obtain a license to practice behavior analysis.
- (1) Practicing behavior analysis while impaired or incapacitated to the extent and in a manner that jeopardizes the welfare of a client or renders the services provided ineffective.
- (m) Using fraud, misrepresentation or deception to obtain or attempt to obtain a behavior analysis license or to pass or attempt to pass a behavior analysis licensing examination or in assisting another person to do so.
- (n) Unprofessional conduct in another jurisdiction that resulted in censure, probation or a civil penalty or in the denial, suspension, restriction or revocation of a certificate or license to practice as a behavior analyst.
- (o) Providing services that are unnecessary or unsafe or otherwise engaging in activities as a behavior analyst that are unprofessional by current standards of practice.
- (p) Falsely or fraudulently claiming to have performed a professional service, charging for a service or representing a service as the licensee's own if the licensee has not rendered the service or assumed supervisory responsibility for the service.
- (q) Representing activities or services as being performed under the licensee's supervision if the behavior analyst has not assumed responsibility for them and has not exercised control, oversight and review.
- (r) Failing to obtain a client's informed and written consent to release personal or otherwise confidential information to another party unless the release is otherwise authorized by law.
- (s) Failing to make client records in the behavior analyst's possession promptly available to another behavior analyst on receipt of

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proper authorization to do so from the client, a minor client's parent, the client's legal guardian or the client's authorized representative or failing to comply with title 12, chapter 13, article 7.1.

- (t) Failing to take reasonable steps to inform or protect a client's intended victim and inform the proper law enforcement officials if the behavior analyst becomes aware during the course of providing or supervising behavior analysis services that a client intends or plans to inflict serious bodily harm on another person.
- (u) Failing to take reasonable steps to protect a client if the behavior analyst becomes aware during the course of providing or supervising behavior analysis services that a client intends or plans to inflict serious bodily harm on self.
- (v) Abandoning or neglecting a client in need of immediate care without making suitable arrangements for continuation of the care.
- (w) Engaging in direct or indirect personal solicitation of clients through the use of coercion, duress, undue influence, compulsion or intimidation practices.
 - (x) Engaging in false, deceptive or misleading advertising.
 - (y) Exploiting a client, student or supervisee.
- (z) Failing to report information to the board regarding a possible act of unprofessional conduct committed by another behavior analyst who is licensed pursuant to this article unless this reporting violates the behavior analyst's confidential relationship with a client pursuant to this article. A behavior analyst who reports or provides information to the board in good faith is not subject to an action for civil damages.
- (aa) Violating a formal board order, consent agreement, term of probation or stipulated agreement issued under this article.
- (bb) Failing to furnish information in a timely manner to the board or its investigators or representatives if requested or subpoenaed by the board as prescribed by this article.
- (cc) Failing to make available to a client or to the client's designated representative, on written request, a copy of the client's record, excluding raw test data, psychometric testing materials and other information as provided by law.
 - (dd) Violating an ethical standard adopted by the board.
- (ee) REPRESENTING ONESELF AS A PSYCHOLOGIST OR PERMITTING OTHERS TO DO SO IF THE BEHAVIOR ANALYST IS NOT ALSO LICENSED AS A PSYCHOLOGIST PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER.
- B. The board shall not consider a complaint against a behavior analyst arising out of a judicially ordered evaluation of a person charged with violating any provision of title 13, chapter 14 to present a charge of unprofessional conduct unless the court ordering the evaluation has found a substantial basis to refer the complaint for consideration by the board.

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Sec. 4. Section 32-2091.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2091.02. Qualifications of applicant

Beginning January 1, 2010 2011, a person who wishes to practice as a behavior analyst must be licensed pursuant to this article. An applicant for licensure must meet all of the following requirements:

- 1. Submit an application as prescribed by the board.
- Be at least twenty-one years of age.
- 3. Be of good moral character. The board's standard to determine good moral character shall not violate federal discrimination laws.
 - 4. Pay all applicable fees prescribed by the board.
- 5. Have the physical and mental capability to safely and competently engage in the practice of behavior analysis.
- 6. Not have committed any act or engaged in any conduct that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action against a licensee pursuant to this article.
- 7. Not have had a professional license or certificate refused, revoked, suspended or restricted in any regulatory jurisdiction in the United States or in another country for reasons that relate to unprofessional conduct. If the board finds that the applicant committed an act or engaged in conduct that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action in this state, the board shall determine to its satisfaction that the conduct has been corrected, monitored and resolved. If the matter has not been resolved, the board shall determine to its satisfaction that mitigating circumstances exist that prevent its resolution.
- 8. Not have voluntarily surrendered a license or certificate in another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States or in another country while under investigation for reasons that relate to unprofessional conduct. If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary action against an applicant, the board shall determine to its satisfaction that the cause for the action was corrected and the matter resolved. If the matter has not been resolved by that jurisdiction, the board shall determine to its satisfaction that mitigating circumstances exist that prevent its resolution.
- 9. Not have a complaint, allegation or investigation pending before another regulatory jurisdiction in the United States or another country that relates to unprofessional conduct. If an applicant has any such complaints, allegations or investigations pending, the board shall suspend the application process and may not issue or deny a license to the applicant until the complaint, allegation or investigation is resolved.
- Sec. 5. Section 32-2091.04, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2091.04. <u>Reciprocity</u>

The board may issue a license to a person as a behavior analyst if the person is licensed or certified by another state A regulatory agency OF ANOTHER STATE THAT IMPOSES REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO

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THOSE IMPOSED BY THIS ARTICLE at an equivalent or higher practice level as determined by the board, pays the fee prescribed by the board and meets all of the following requirements:

- 1. Submits a written application prescribed by the board.
- 2. Is of good moral character. The board's standard to determine good moral character shall not violate federal discrimination laws.
- 3. Documents to the board's satisfaction proof of initial licensure or certification at an equivalent designation for which the applicant is seeking licensure in this state and proof that the license or certificate is current and in good standing.
- 4. Documents to the board's satisfaction proof that any other license or certificate issued to the applicant by another state has not been suspended or revoked. If a licensee or certificate holder has been subjected to any other disciplinary action, the board may assess the magnitude of that action and make a decision regarding reciprocity based on this assessment.
 - 5. Meets any other requirements prescribed by the board by rule. Sec. 6. Section 32-2091.06, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to

read:

32-2091.06. <u>Temporary licenses: inactive status: reinstatement</u> to active status

- A. If the board requires an additional examination, it may issue a temporary license to a behavior analyst who is licensed or certified under the laws of another jurisdiction, if the behavior analyst applies to the board for licensure and meets the educational, experience and first examination requirements of this article.
- B. A temporary license issued pursuant to this section is effective from the date the application is approved until the last day of the month in which the applicant receives the results of the additional examination.
- C. The board shall not extend, renew or reissue a temporary license or allow it to continue in effect beyond the period authorized by this section.
- $\ensuremath{\mathsf{D}}.$ The board's denial of an application for licensure terminates a temporary license.
- E. The board may place on inactive status and waive the license renewal fee requirements for a person who is temporarily or permanently unable to practice as a behavior analyst due to physical or mental incapacity or disability. An initial request for the waiver of renewal fees shall be accompanied by the renewal fee for an active license, which the board shall return if the waiver is granted. The board shall judge each request for the waiver of renewal fees on its own merits and may seek the verification it deems necessary to substantiate the facts of the situation. A behavior analyst who is retired is exempt from paying the renewal fee. A behavior analyst may request voluntary inactive status by submitting to the board an application on a form prescribed by the board and an affirmation that the behavior analyst will not practice as a behavior analyst in this state for

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the duration of the voluntary inactive status and by paying the required fee AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD BY RULE.

- F. A behavior analyst who is on any form of inactive status shall renew the inactive status every two years by submitting a renewal form provided by the board and paying any applicable fee AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD BY RULE. A notice to renew is fully effective by mailing the renewal application to the licensee's last known address of record in the board's file. Notice is complete at the time of its deposit in the mail. A behavior analyst who is on inactive status due to physical or mental incapacity or disability or retirement shall use the term "inactive" to describe the person's status and shall not practice as a behavior analyst.
- G. A behavior analyst on inactive status may request reinstatement of the license to active status by applying to the board. The board shall determine whether the person has been or is in violation of any provisions of this article and whether the person has maintained and updated the person's professional knowledge and capability to practice as a behavior analyst. The board may require the person to take or retake the licensure examinations and may require other knowledge or skill training experiences. If approved for active status, the person shall pay a renewal fee that equals the renewal fee for the license to be reinstated.
- Sec. 7. Section 32-2091.07, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

32-2091.07. Active license: issuance: renewal: expiration: continuing education

- A. If the applicant satisfies all of the requirements for licensure pursuant to this article, the board shall issue an active license and shall prorate the fee for issuing that license for the period remaining until May 1 of the next odd-numbered year.
- B. A person holding an active or inactive license shall apply to renew the license on or before April 30 of each odd-numbered year. The application shall include any applicable renewal fee AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD BY RULE. A license expires if the licensee fails to renew the license on or before April 30 of that year. A licensee may reinstate an expired license by paying a reinstatement fee AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD BY RULE on or before June 30 of that year. Beginning on July 1 of that year through April 30 of the next year, a licensee may reinstate the license by paying a reinstatement fee AS PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD BY RULE and providing proof of competency and qualifications to the board. This proof may include continuing education, an oral examination, a written examination or an interview with the board. A licensee whose license is not reinstated on or before April 30 of the next even-numbered year may reapply for licensure as prescribed by this article. A notice to renew is fully effective by mailing the renewal application to the licensee's last known address of record in the board's file. Notice is complete at the time of deposit in the mail.

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- C. A person renewing a license shall attach to the completed renewal form a report of disciplinary actions or restrictions placed against the license by another state licensing or disciplinary board or disciplinary actions or sanctions imposed by a state or national behavior analysis ethics committee or health care institution. The report shall include the name and address of the sanctioning agency or health care institution, the nature of the action taken and a general statement of the charges leading to the action.
- D. A person who renews an active license to practice behavior analysis in this state shall satisfy a continuing education requirement designed to provide the necessary understanding of current developments, skills, procedures or treatment related to the practice of behavior analysis in the amount and during the period the board prescribes. The board shall prescribe documentation requirements.
- Sec. 8. Section 32-2091.09, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

- A. The board on its own motion may investigate evidence that appears to show that a licensee BEHAVIOR ANALYST is psychologically incompetent AS A BEHAVIOR ANALYST, guilty of unprofessional conduct or mentally or physically unable to safely engage in the practice of behavior analysis. A health care institution shall, and any other person may, report to the board information that appears to show that a licensee BEHAVIOR ANALYST is psychologically incompetent AS A BEHAVIOR ANALYST, guilty of unprofessional conduct or mentally or physically unable to safely engage in the practice of behavior analysis. The board shall notify the licensee about whom information has been received as to the content of the information within one hundred twenty days after receiving the information. A person who reports or provides information to the board in good faith is not subject to an action for civil damages. The board, if requested, shall not disclose the name of the person providing information unless this information is essential to proceedings conducted pursuant to this section. The board shall report a health care institution that fails to report as required by this section to the institution's licensing agency.
- B. THE BOARD SHALL NOT CONSIDER A COMPLAINT AGAINST A BEHAVIOR ANALYST ARISING OUT OF A JUDICIALLY ORDERED EVALUATION OF A PERSON CHARGED WITH VIOLATING ANY PROVISION OF TITLE 13, CHAPTER 14 TO PRESENT A CHARGE OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT UNLESS THE COURT ORDERING THE EVALUATION HAS FOUND A SUBSTANTIAL BASIS TO REFER THE COMPLAINT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD. THE BOARD SHALL NOT CONSIDER A COMPLAINT AGAINST A JUDICIALLY APPOINTED BEHAVIOR ANALYST ARISING OUT OF A COURT ORDERED EVALUATION OF A PERSON TO PRESENT A CHARGE OF UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT UNLESS THE COURT ORDERING THE EVALUATION HAS

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FOUND A SUBSTANTIAL BASIS TO REFER THE COMPLAINT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD.

- B. C. A health care institution shall inform the board if the privileges of a licensee to practice in that institution are denied, revoked, suspended or limited because of actions by the licensee that appear to show that the person is psychologically incompetent AS A BEHAVIOR ANALYST, guilty of unprofessional conduct or mentally or physically unable to safely engage in the practice of behavior analysis, along with a general statement of the reasons that led the health care institution to take this action. A health care institution shall inform the board if a licensee under investigation resigns the licensee's privileges or if a licensee resigns in lieu of disciplinary action by the health care institution. Notification must include a general statement of the reasons for the resignation.
- C. D. The board may require the licensee to undergo any combination of mental, physical or psychological competence examinations at the licensee's expense and shall conduct investigations necessary to determine the competence and conduct of the licensee.
- D. E. The chairperson of the board shall appoint a complaint screening committee of at least three members of the board, including a public member. The complaint screening committee is subject to open meeting requirements pursuant to title 38, chapter 3, article 3.1. The complaint screening committee shall review all complaints and, based on the information provided pursuant to subsection A or B of this section, may take either of the following actions:
- 1. Dismiss the complaint if the committee determines that the complaint is without merit. Complaints dismissed by the complaint screening committee shall not be disclosed in response to a telephone inquiry or placed on the board's website.
- 2. Refer the complaint to the full board for further review and action.
- E. F. If the board finds, based on the information it receives under subsection A or B of this section, that the public health, safety or welfare requires emergency action, the board may order a summary suspension of a license pending proceedings for revocation or other action. If the board issues this order, it shall serve the licensee with a written notice of complaint and formal hearing pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 10, setting forth the charges made against the licensee and the licensee's right to a formal hearing before the board or an administrative law judge within sixty days.
- F. G. If the board finds that the information provided pursuant to subsection A or B of this section is not of sufficient seriousness to merit direct action against the licensee, it may take any of the following actions:
 - 1. Dismiss if the board believes the information is without merit.
 - 2. File a letter of concern.

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- 3. Issue a nondisciplinary order requiring the licensee to complete a prescribed number of hours of continuing education in an area or areas prescribed by the board to provide the licensee with the necessary understanding of current developments, skills, procedures or treatment.
- G. H. If the board believes the information provided pursuant to subsection A or B— C of this section is or may be true, it may request an informal interview with the licensee. If the licensee refuses to be interviewed or if pursuant to an interview the board determines that cause may exist to revoke or suspend the license, it shall issue a formal complaint and hold a hearing pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 10. If as a result of an informal interview or a hearing the board determines that the facts do not warrant revocation or suspension of the license, it may take any of the following actions:
 - Dismiss if the board believes the information is without merit.
 - 2. File a letter of concern.
 - 3. Issue a decree of censure.
- 4. Fix a period and terms of probation best adapted to protect the public health and safety and to rehabilitate or educate the licensee. Probation may include temporary suspension for not more than twelve months, restriction of the license or restitution of fees to a client resulting from violations of this article. If a licensee fails to comply with a term of probation, the board may file a complaint and notice of hearing pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 10 and take further disciplinary action.
- 5. Enter into an agreement with the licensee to restrict or limit the licensee's practice or activities in order to rehabilitate the licensee, protect the public and ensure the licensee's ability to safely engage in the practice of behavior analysis.
- 6. Issue a nondisciplinary order requiring the licensee to complete a prescribed number of hours of continuing education in an area or areas prescribed by the board to provide the licensee with the necessary understanding of current developments, skills, procedures or treatment.
- H. I. If the board finds that the information provided pursuant to subsection A or B of this section warrants suspension or revocation of a license, it shall hold a hearing pursuant to title 41, chapter 6, article 10. Notice of a complaint and hearing is fully effective by mailing a true copy to the licensee's last known address of record in the board's files. Notice is complete at the time of its deposit in the mail.
- I. J. The board may impose a civil penalty of at least three hundred dollars but not more than three thousand dollars for each violation of this article or a rule adopted under this article. The board shall deposit, pursuant to sections 35-146 and 35-147, all monies it collects from civil penalties pursuant to this subsection in the state general fund.
- J. K. If the board determines after a hearing that a licensee has committed an act of unprofessional conduct, is mentally or physically unable to safely engage in the practice of behavior analysis or is psychologically

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incompetent AS A BEHAVIOR ANALYST, it may do any of the following in any combination and for any period of time it determines necessary:

- 1. Suspend or revoke the license.
- 2. Censure the licensee.
- 3. Place the licensee on probation.
- K_{\bullet} L. A licensee may submit a written response to the board within thirty days after receiving a letter of concern. The response is a public document and shall be placed in the licensee's file.
- $\frac{\text{M.}}{\text{N.}}$ N. Except as provided in section 41-1092.08, subsection H, a person may appeal a final decision made pursuant to this section to the superior court pursuant to title 12, chapter 7, article 6.
- N_{τ} O. If during the course of an investigation the board determines that a criminal violation may have occurred involving the delivery of behavior analysis services, it shall inform the appropriate criminal justice agency.
 - Sec. 9. <u>Conditional delayed repeal: notice</u>
- A. Title 32, chapter 19.1, article 4, Arizona Revised Statutes, is repealed from and after June 30, 2010 if the state board of psychologist examiners does not receive on or before that date at least \$36,000 to begin to license and regulate behavior analysts or if monies received by the state board of psychologist examiners for these purposes are transferred to the state general fund on or before that date and before the board can begin to license and regulate behavior analysts.
- B. The state board of psychologist examiners shall notify in writing the director of the Arizona legislative council of the date on which the condition is met or if the condition is not met.
 - Sec. 10. Laws 2008, chapter 288, section 9 is amended to read:
 - Sec. 9. Exemption from rule making

For the purposes of this act, the state board of psychologist examiners is exempt from the rule making requirements of title 41, chapter 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, for two THREE years after the effective date of this act.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR JULY 13, 2009.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE JULY 13, 2009.